

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

Claims 1-18 are pending in this application.

Regarding the § 103 Rejection

Claims 1-18 were rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) for being rendered obvious by Ozeki et al (U.S. Patent No. 5,402,385) in view of Helmbold et al (U.S. Patent No. 5,497,450). Applicant agrees with the Examiner that Ozeki does not disclose disabling the load condition of a data register.

Applicant would agree that Helmbold discloses disabling one loading condition of the data register under the specific condition of “if the selected address matches of the data register” then the memory protection circuit 36 blocks the write signal so as to prevent the protected area of the RAM being written to. (Col. 8, lines 21-37) Applicant respectfully points out that the cited art does not teach disabling more than one load condition associated with the data register.

As discussed in the present application starting at page 9, line 9 through line 25 and shown in Figures 4, 5, 6 and 7, there are multiple ways of enabling a load condition for the data register of the disclosed flash memory or other similar memories.

Applicant has amended independent claims 1, 4, 5, 9, 13 and 14 to require the disabling of more than one load condition of the data registers. Applicant respectfully submits that none of the art cited teaches the disablement of more than one load condition of the data register. Applicant points out that by disabling more than one load condition of the data registers, one is making the claimed invention less susceptible to allowing the writing of data into a write protected storage medium. Applicant respectfully submits that the claimed invention is not

taught, alluded to, or rendered obvious by Ozeki in view of Helmbold and respectfully requests that this § 103 rejection be withdrawn. Applicant respectfully submits that the present claims are ready for allowance.

In view of the above, it is believed that this application is in condition for allowance, and such a Notice is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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